

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 04292 261330Z
ACTION INR-10

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
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C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 4292

PARIS FOR OECD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OECD, JM
SUBJECT: BIO INFORMATION ON RICHARDSON, SIR EDGERTON

1. SIR EDGERTON RUDOLPH RICHARDSON, FORMER JAMAICAN
AMBASSADOR TO BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED NATIONS,
WAS BORN ON AUGUST 15, 1912, IN ST. CATHERINE, JAMAIC.
HE ATTENDED CALABAR HIGH SCHOOL IN KINGSTON AND ALSO STUDIED
PUBLIC FINANCE AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY (1953-55). HE BEGAN HIS
CAREER IN THE JAMAICAN CIVIL SERVICE AS A CLERK IN THE
POLICE DEPARTMENT IN 1933. THEREAFTER, HE HELD A VARIETY
OF POSITIONS AND IN 1956 WAS APPOINTED FINANCIAL SECRETARY.

2. FOLLOWING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF JAMAICAN INDEPENDENCE IN
1962, RICHARDSON BECAME HIS COUNTRY'S FIRST PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS. FROM 1967 TO
AUGUST 1972 HE WAS AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, SERVING
CONCURRENTLY AS AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO UNTIL SOMETIME
IN 1975. HIS ACTIVITIES SINCE 1975 ARE NOT KNOWN.

3. U.S. OFFICIALS WHO DEALT WITH RICHARDSON AT THE
UNITED NATIONS DESCRIBED HIM AS INTELLIGENT BUT HAVING
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A COLD, DIFFICULT PERSONALITY. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS
AT THE UNITED NATIONS, HE CLEARLY EXCEEDED HIS INSTRUCTIONS
IN ORDER TO ALIGN JAMAICA MORE CLOSELY WITH THE POSITIONS
OF THE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES WHICH WERE OPPOSED TO THE U.S.

4. RICHARDSON HAS A SON AND A DAUGHTER. HIS WIFE DIED
IN 1966. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER HE REMARRIED.

HAVERKAMP

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